

b3
371.065
ADDRESS

OF THE

British American Association

TO THE

ELECTORS

OF THE

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

SAINT JOHN, N. B.

PRINTED BY BARNES AND COMPANY,

PRINCE WILLIAM STREET.

Gentlemen—

You are called
leges of a free
whether a change
tution of your
both to yourself
well and careful
votes irrespective

The scheme
North American
is a question wh
ful men. But t
ment seemed in
towards it unti
that cannot be r
placed this grea
sanction of the
ments intereste
held at Quebec,
principle of mu
form a union, n
Brunswick, No
the general ben
preservation of
The scheme so
proval of the I
tary, writing to

“Her Majest
and to the resol
rate considerati
as having been

ADDRESS.

Gentlemen—

You are called upon to exercise one of the highest privileges of a free people—to determine by votes at the Poll whether a change shall or shall not be made in the Constitution of your Country. It is a matter of vast moment both to yourselves and your descendants that you weigh well and carefully the subject before you, and cast your votes irrespective of party or prejudice of any kind.

The scheme for the Union or Confederation of these North American Colonies is not a thing of yesterday. It is a question which has long engaged the minds of thoughtful men. But the difficulties in the way of its accomplishment seemed insuperable, and no active steps were taken towards it until last year, when circumstances occurred that cannot be regarded otherwise than Providential, which placed this great reform within our reach. With the full sanction of the Crown and of the several Colonial Governments interested in the subject, a formal Conference was held at Quebec, which agreed to a scheme based upon the principle of mutual compromise. The grand object was to form a union, not for the exclusive benefit of Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia or Prince Edward Island, but for the general benefit of the whole of these Colonies, and the preservation of the connexion with the Mother Country. The scheme so prepared obtained at once the emphatic approval of the Imperial Government. The Colonial Secretary, writing to the Governor General, says:

“Her Majesty’s Government have given to your despatch and to the resolutions of the Conference their most deliberate consideration. They have regarded them as a whole, as having been designed by those who have framed them,

to establish as complete and perfect an Union of the whole into one Government as the circumstances of the case and a due consideration of existing interests would admit. They accept them, therefore, as being in the deliberate judgment of those best qualified to decide upon the subject, the best framework of a measure to be passed by the Imperial Parliament for attaining that most desirable result." And again, "It appears to them, therefore, that you should now take immediate measures, in concert with the Lieutenant Governors of the several Provinces, for submitting to the respective Legislatures this project of the Conference; and if, as I hope, you are able to report that these Legislatures sanction and adopt the scheme, Her Majesty's Government will render you all the assistance in their power for carrying it into effect."

This circumstance alone is a sufficient consideration to the minds of many intelligent and loyal men to concur in the proposed change in the Constitution; but when to this it is added, that the leading statesmen of these Colonies, and numerous publicists in England and elsewhere, give it their cordial support, an array of authority is exhibited in its favour which no imperfect, partial, unfair, or unjust measure could possibly secure. It is, however, unhappily too true that measures like the one now under consideration, that produce an epoch in the annals of the world, and give a new career of advancement to society, are seldom approached or fully comprehended at the time by a large body of the people most interested in them. There are numerous illustrations of this fact on the pages of history. Prejudice, party feeling, opposition to change, timidity and personal antipathies are most frequently the causes which deter men from accepting the best designed measures. Electors of New Brunswick, guard against such feelings; cast them to the winds; examine this Scheme fairly and impartially; and if you stand true to your country your decision will unquestionably be in its favor. For what does it offer? What does it secure? Among others may be named the following:

1. It secures free all the maritime P wealthy province of
2. It secures a fr nearly four millions
3. It secures the road at a moderate will not only bind New Brunswick and New Brunswick, by to an increase of the
4. It secures the Railroad, as a great purpose can be rea vinces are confeder there without it.
5. It secures the the proprietors in E of a million of dollar plished fact.
6. It secures on fa required by the Pro entered into by the
7. It secures a bro the people of this P fined within the nar labors and talents m the Continent, and u
8. It secures and perial Government stamped with their a command their warn
9. It secures the c sessing at present a p all the elements requ a nation, it may be s proud to belong.

1. It secures free and unrestricted trade, not only with all the maritime Provinces, but with the extensive and wealthy province of Canada.
2. It secures a free market for our manufactures among nearly four millions of people.
3. It secures the construction of the Intercolonial Railroad at a moderate cost to this Province—a railroad which will not only bind together the three Colonies of Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, but especially benefit New Brunswick, by opening up the country and leading to an increase of the population.
4. It secures the construction of the Western Extension Railroad, as a great portion of the money required for the purpose can be readily obtained in England if the Provinces are confederated, and can not be easily obtained there without it.
5. It secures the completion of the St. Andrews line, as the proprietors in England are ready to expend a quarter of a million of dollars at once if Confederation is an accomplished fact.
6. It secures on favorable terms the money (\$1,300,000), required by the Province to meet Railway engagements entered into by the Legislature at its last Session.
7. It secures a broad and ample field for the energies of the people of this Province. No longer cribbed and confined within the narrow limits of New Brunswick, their labors and talents may be exercised freely over one-fifth of the Continent, and under the glorious flag of our fathers.
8. It secures and perpetuates the friendship of the Imperial Government and the Mother Land, as a measure stamped with their approval and guaranteed by them must command their warmest sympathies and support.
9. It secures the creation or formation of a State possessing at present a population of nearly four millions, and all the elements requisite for their advancement,—a State, a nation, it may be said, to which each member may be proud to belong.

10. It secures the Provinces against absorption into the American Union; as a State with a population united in sympathy and affection—with one common interest, and linked with Great Britain, one of the mightiest nations of the earth—will have a destiny of its own, and a strength sufficient to command respect.

11. It secures to New Brunswick a revenue which, judging from the past, is amply sufficient to cover all charges for roads, bridges and other usual local improvements.

12. It secures to the several Provinces Parliaments empowered to transact all local business; and finally,

13. It secures all these advantages without increased taxation upon the people of this Province.

Electors of New Brunswick! Do not falter at this great crisis in your history. The eyes of millions are upon you watching your action. Your responsibility is great, mighty, almost overwhelming; rise to the level of it, and sink all petty considerations. Be true to your country! Remember that opportunities once neglected seldom or never return to individuals, much less to nations. Seize the golden moment. Prophets of evil, croakers, narrow headed and narrow hearted politicians there always are and always will be. Spurn their counsels. Embrace, adopt a measure fraught with such vast blessings to your country, yourselves and your descendants. Vote only for men pledged to its support, and in a few years all the advantages enumerated will become your birthright and be the lasting inheritance of your posterity. To secure them, act only as British subjects and free men. Act thus, and you secure also the applause and approbation of your Sovereign, her advisers, and your Father land.

GEO. E. KING,
SECRETARY,

St. John, Feb. 20, 1865.

JAS. R. RUEL,
PRESIDENT,
British American Association

As doub
tion of the
federalcy, a
our views a
desire, not
our fellow
ed a large
that this c
important
Union.

We have
offered, we
offer. After
we are pers
with any of
and already
our manufac
when no ho
shown only
and direct b
construction
to be spent
our Merchan
measure. T
manufacture
of trade cau
Ships—we sh
not affected
people empl
Railway con
draw from th
obtain them,
products wh
these Mariti
neighboring
of Massachus
Growers of t

ADDRESS

TO THE

WORKING MEN OF NEW BRUNSWICK,

BY THE MANUFACTURERS OF ST. JOHN.

As doubts have been expressed relative to our opinions upon the great question of the Union of the British North American Provinces into one Confederacy, and as from many quarters the desire has been expressed to know our views as Manufacturers largely interested in the trade of this country, we desire, not as Politicians, but as Manufacturers and Employers, to express to our fellow Working Men our views decidedly upon the matter. Having invested a large amount of capital for manufacturing purposes, and being anxious that this capital shall yield fair returns, we are firmly convinced that it is all important that our earnest and united support be given to this measure of Union.

We have for years been contending for a larger market, and, now that it is offered, we respectfully entreat our *fellow-working men at once to accept this offer*. After a careful study and comparison with the neighboring Provinces we are persuaded that New Brunswick Manufacturers can successfully compete with any of them if we have the larger market in which to sell our productions, and already have some of us, in the face of opposing tariffs, successfully sent our manufactures into these other Colonies. How much more can this be done when no hostile tariffs meet us, when a fair field is open to us, and favor is shown only to the energetic, industrious and skilful workman? The immediate and direct benefits to this Province which will result from Confederation in the construction of Railways through it, which will cause many Millions of Dollars to be spent among our Working People, our Farmers, our Storekeepers, and our Merchants, ought to influence our people of every class to support this measure. The large amount of money circulating here will enable our rising manufacturers to take a firm stand, and instead of the periodical stagnation of trade caused by the fluctuations of our only articles of export—Lumber and Ships—we shall have manufactures that will be a continual source of prosperity, not affected by the changes in the European Market, and giving to our working people employment all the year round. Under the new arrangement, with Railway connection with Western Canada, then part and parcel of us, we shall draw from that Granary of the West, our flour and wheat, at less than we now obtain them, and thus, with this great back country to supply us with those products which our own Farmers cannot produce in sufficient quantity, we in these Maritime Provinces must become the manufacturing power, as in the neighboring Union the Great West is their Granary, while the Maritime States of Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island, &c., are the busy manufacturers for the Growers of the West.

We, then, recommend to our fellow Working Men of New Brunswick, to study this question fully and impartially, as we have done, and we are persuaded that they will arrive at our conclusion, which is, to do all in our power to support the men who pledge themselves to carry this measure without reference to Party, believing that in so doing we are serving the true interests of this, our fair Province of New Brunswick.

W. H. Scovill, Manufacturer of Iron Nails &c;
 Wm. Parks & Son, New Brunswick Cotton Mills;
 Wm. & R. Wright, Ship owners and Ship Builders;
 James Harris, New Brunswick Foundry;
 Fleming & Humbert, Phoenix Foundry;
 Thomas Rankine & Sons, Ship Bread and Biscuit Manufacturers;
 A. Rowan, Plumber, Gas Fitter, &c.;
 Valpey & Bros., Boot & Shoe Manufacturers;
 D. H. Hall, do.;
 S. Spiller, Manufacturer of Edge Tools, &c.;
 H. B. Spiller, do.;
 E. & H. Broad, do.;
 Turnbull & Co., Manufacturers of Wood, &c.
 W. R. Reynolds, Manufacturer, (Lepreaux);
 Logan & Stewart, Soap and Candle Manuf'y;
 J. De Wolf Spurr, Albertine Oil Company;
 J. N. Moore, do.;
 James Dyall, Plumber, &c.;
 Wm. Runciman, Brass Founder, &c.;
 Lee & Company, Manufacturers;
 Pearce & Pratt, Plumbers, Gasfitters, &c.;
 Evan Evans, Tinsmith, Gasfitter, &c.;
 Tremaine & Jones, Manufacturers of Tobacco;
 A. J. Lordly, Manufacturer of Furniture, &c.;
 Alfred Lordly, do.;
 C. E. Burnham, do.;
 M. Francis, Boot & Shoe Manufacturer;
 A. Laurilliard, Pianoforte Manufacturer;
 C. D. Everitt & Son, Hat and Cap Manuf'rs;
 D. Magee & Co., do.;
 Edward R. Moore, Nail Manufacturer;
 Holt & Nugent, Saw Mill;
 John McLauchlan, Ship Builder;
 James Quinton, Builder;
 John C. Miles, Manufacturer of Transparent Blinds, &c.;
 C. E. Potter, Carver and Gilder;
 Price & Shaw, Carriage and Sleigh Manuf'rs;
 Thos. Hilyard, Ship Builder;
 G. & V. S. White, Match Manufacturers;
 George G. Dustan, Managing Director of the New Brunswick Sugar Refinery Comp'y;
 Z. G. Gabel, Agent St. John Manufacturing Company;
 Wm. Hayward & Co., Brass Founders and Finishers;
 Henry Nicholls, Iron Knee Manufacturer;
 Gass, Stewart & Co., Ship Builders;
 George King, Ship Builder;
 John Smith, Eagle Foundry;
 George Craig, Vulcan Foundry;
 John Fisher, Ship Builder;
 John Murphy, Brush Manufacturer;
 R. Robertson & Son, Sail Makers;
 John E. Turnbull, Sash Manufacturer;
 Henry Maxwell, Lumber Dealer;
 Angus McAfee, Portland Foundry;
 Joseph McAfee, Founder;
 Fought & Leonard, Sail Makers;
 Jos. White & Sons, Courtenay Bay Pottery;
 G. P. Sancton, Cut Nail & Spike Manuf'ct;
 Edwards & Dodge, Door & Sash Factory;
 Francis McKee, Soap & Candle Factory;
 James Bond, Iron Founder;
 Lewis Young, Blacksmith;
 Robert Finlay, Saddle, Harness and Horse Manufacturer;
 Wm. Peters, Leather Manufacturer;
 Wm. Campbell, Spring Manufacturer;
 Josiah Fowler, do.;
 D. Willett, Agricultural Implem't Worker;
 James Willett, do.;
 James Sullivan, Builder and Brick Maker;
 Jacob Mires, Carriage Maker;
 Robert J. Jenkins, Ship Builder;
 Samuel Mires, Machinist;
 Thos. Willis, Plane Maker;
 John Duncan, Baker;
 Robert Milligan, Marble Works;
 E. J. Barteaux, Master Builder;
 Robt. Milligan, Stone Cutter;
 W. B. Frost, Master Builder;
 D. Heffernan, do.;
 John J. Munro, do.;
 J. B. Balson, Hat & Cap Manufacturer;
 A. L. Starratt & Co., do.;
 Jas. W. Hewitt, Furniture Manufacturer;
 C. Sorrell, Ship Builder and Pond Keeper;
 John Morrison, do.;
 Walter Brown, do.;
 J. C. Edwards, Edge Tool Manufacturer;
 J. H. McAvity, New Brunswick Brass Worker;
 James T. Magee, Gasfitter, &c.;
 Zechariah Adams, Steam Saw Mill;
 I. & S. W. Olive, Ship Builders;
 Moses Tuck, Timber Dealer;
 G. F. Thompson, Painter, Glazier, &c.;
 Joseph V. Kingston, Manager New Brunswick Cotton Mills;
 John Kennelly, Cotton Spinner;
 Robert Hamilton, Engineer;
 William H. Gibbs, Warehouseman.

If any other Manufacturers (who may not have been called on for want of time) wish to sign, the document will be found at the Rooms of the British American Association.

